

THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE WRIGHT PETITION (CC DOCKET #96-128,

10/11/12 Received & Inspected

OCT 11 2012

FCC Mail Room

DEAR CHAIRMAN GENACHOWSKI,

I AM WRITING IN REGARD TO THE OUTLANDISH PRICES I, AS A PRISONER, HAVE TO PAY TO USE THE PHONE. IT IS A HARDSHIP FOR MYSELF AND MY FAMILY. MY MOTHER IS ELDERLY AND ON A FIXED-INCOME. I ONLY MAKE \$44 PER DAY AS A YARD PORTER.

THE PRICE-GOUGING OF PRISONERS HAS TO STOP! I DON'T GET COST-OF-LIVING RAISES OR BONUSES TO KEEP UP WITH RISING PRICES.

PLEASE INVESTIGATE THIS PHONE EXORTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! I CAN BARELY AFFORD TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH MY MOTHER AND MY CHILDREN.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SINCERELY,

Rosamarie J. Mr. Sizaire

#197760 GB-20-4

WHV 3201 BEMIS ROAD  
YASILANTI, MI 48197

To Whom it may concern.

Received & Inspected

OCT 11 2012

FCC Mail Room

I am writing this letter on behalf of the inmates in Women Huron Valley Complex in Michigan. PCS rates are extremely high for us. Some of us live on a fixed income and some have there whole family on the West Coast which ~~coast~~ cost me 4\$ a call I live on a 50\$ a month income I have to buy personals which runs me 45\$ a month. I try to stay in contact with my family and with PCS's Rates it makes it hard. I appreciate the fact that you allow us to buy phone cards but the rates are very high is there anyway to lower the rates please. Thank you for reading this.

Thank you.

Kari  
Bennett  
#718679

Dear Chairman Genachowski

Sep 30 2012

Hello, I am writing in regards to our phone service, I have children at 3 separate residences and now I can only make 3 calls for a total of \$10.00 dollars. I live off my work pay which is \$40.00 dollars a month. I am being ripped off of having a relationship with my family & friends. By the grace of God can you help us prisoners with the new phone rates its outrageous, we are already paying for our crimes. Thank you

Received & Inspected

CST 11 2012

FCC Mail Room

Nina Bauman

764932

WNUCF

3201 Bemis Rd

Ypsilanti MI 48197

Nina Bauman

This is a public comment  
for the Wright Docket  
cc #96-128

This is a public comment for the  
WRIGHT Petition cc DOCKET # 96-128

September 29, 2012

Received & Inspected

OCT 11 2012

FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Genachowski

When I first arrived to Woman's Huron Valley Complex, the phone rates averaged approximately \$1.50 for 15 minutes. This was a great thing because I could put \$10.00 of my inmate state pay on my phone account. I could make several calls and easily budget the time over a week or two span. My family could also attach several numbers to one account. With this new phone Company they require a new account per number. With this new company I can only make 3-15 minute calls on \$10.00 of work pay. It is so much harder keeping in contact with my family, making calls out of my account. Please Chairman help get this bill passed for the lower rates, what little money each of us inmates receive, let it go further to ease our stresses and anxiety. Let us and our familys not pay further!

Sincerely,  
Heather Godwin

Heather Godwin #790584

September 30, 2012

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

Received & Inspected  
OCT 11 2012  
FCC Mail Room

As the only completely blind female at Woman's Huron Valley Complex, it has been completely devastating to me, my family, and my friends with having the phone costs so high. My children get so upset because ~~we~~ they don't live together and I am not able to speak with each of them for a full 15 minutes due to high costs I am unable to listen to their troubles and be supportive as a mother should be. My family, friends, and I are being ripped off having a close relationship due to high phone rates. They live to far away to come and visit me, which is the case with most inmates. Having use of the phone is crucially important to everyone involved. We are already paying for our crimes, so why are ~~we~~ our loved ones suffering, too? Being blind makes it difficult to write and have the letters be legable to read. My close ones would rather hear my voice, as I would theirs. My daughter was hysterical over the tragic death of her pet cat. I could only comfort her for approximately 6 minutes and had to abruptly end the call. Please pass this bill to get lower phone rates, as it will benefit all of our loved ones and prisoners. Each inmate is dually paying for his/her crime, don't make us pay further!

Sincerely,

Marsha Springer

Marsha Springer #760944

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2012

Dear Chairman Gensachowski,

The high costs of keeping in touch with my family gets higher every day. Costs go up but cost-of-living pay increases are non-existent in prison.

I make 84¢ a day, five days per week. Prices go up, but pay never does. There is no regulation of price gouging prisoners. Phone calls are vitally important and shouldn't be so expensive that we cannot call our families and friends. We have already been convicted and are serving our sentences, why are we being treated so inhumanely when it comes to talking to our families?

And why doesn't the FCC regulate; and fine heavily, the TV stations and affiliates that won't unscramble their closed captioning? I am deaf, and would appreciate being able to have the same privileges as hearing prisoners.

Why doesn't the FCC require all state and federal facilities to update the antiquated TTY to video phones? Let's bring communications for the deaf into the 21st century!

I appreciate your attention to my letter.  
I hope lower costs will be a reality  
soon.

The DOT has had an ongoing  
investigation of this facility since 2009.

Sincerely,

Lynthea S. McDonnell  
#308105 GB-20-L  
W/H 3301 Berries Road  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition  
C/L Docket #96-128

Dear Chairman Gendachowski,  
FCC

Public Comments  
445 12th St. SW  
Wash. DC 20554

Sept 30, 2012

Received & Inspected

OCT 11 2012

FCC Mail Room

As a deaf woman in prison, I see the importance of maintaining open communications with family and friends. Costs of everything we need are skyrocketing - including phone costs. Our families and friends are forced to pay the costs in order to speak to us. When long distances are a factor, the phone is a lifeline to home.

Please bring costs down for prisoners. And please find out why we cannot have a videophone. The Hwy is slowly fading out as a modern communication tool.

Respectfully,  
Mary McBride  
#712129

WHV  
3201 Berries  
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

30 Sept. 2012

Dear Chairwoman Gersbachowski,

Received & Inspected

FST 11 2012

FCC Mail Room

I am one of a growing population of deaf prisoners. We don't have access to phone cards to purchase. I cannot call my family with the TV because they are also deaf and have a telephone.

Staying in touch with family and friends is very important, especially for the deaf. Price gouging is very much part of the phone system here. We are all hostages to whatever prices that are put upon things we need. We are trapped and have to pay them in order to survive and stay in contact with our families and the deaf community.

Please, help all of us, and help to regulate prices we can afford.

Respectfully, #77582  
Linda Linton

3201 BeMIS Road  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
Woman Huron Valley  
Corr. Fac. in prison

THIS IS A HIGHER COMMITTEE FOR THE LIGHT PETITION DOCKET #96-128  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
PRISONER STATIONARY

CSJ-110 4/90  
4835-3110

TO:		
NAME		
NO. AND STREET OR R.R.		
CITY	STATE	ZIP

FROM:		
NAME Roni JACOBS		
NO. 322040	LOCK	GB-3IC
INSTITUTION WHJC	DATE 9-30-12	

IN CORRESPONDENCE, USE NAME AND NUMBER ON YOUR LETTER AND ENVELOPE

DEAR CHAIRMAN GEN AC HOWSKY,

Received & Inspected

FCC  
PUBLIC COMMENTS  
455 12th St SW  
WASH DC 20554

OCT 11 2012

FCC Mail Room

AS AN INMATE IN THE MICHIGAN DEPT. OF CORRECTION'S AND THE MOTHER OF THREE TEENAGE BOYS AS WELL AS WITH SEVERAL FRIENDS AND RELATIVES THAT WANT TO BE OF SUPPORT THROUGH OUT MY INCARCERATION, IT IS VERY HARD ON THE FINANCIAL STRAINS WITH THE COST OF TELEPHONE CALLS BEING THAT I MUST PAY FOR CALLS MADE ON MY END WITH THE BARRIER OF COLLECT CALLS BEING SO EXPENSIVE. AND THE FACT THAT I'M ALSO DEAF, I NEED ACCESS TO VIDEO PHONES FOR MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS THAT HAVE VIDEO PHONES.

WE DON'T GET COST OF LIVING INCREASE IN PAY.

I MAKE .84<sup>4</sup> a day in pay. THEY NEED TO BRING THE COST OF TELEPHONE CALLS DOWN

SINCERELY -

RONI JACOBS  
# 322040

Received & Inspected

6/11/2012

FCC Mail Room

To whom it may CONCERN:

My name is Jaianna Glenn #807689, I am currently incarcerated at Huron Valley in Ypsilanti, MICHIGAN. I am contacting you about the cost of the phone calls which is extremely too high. I am indigent, I live off of my work pay which is 40.00\$ a month. The cost of a 15 minute phone call is 3.50, I am only allowed to call home once a month because my children are in separate households. This high cost of phone calls is causing me to loose the bond that I once shared with my children. It's not fair that I have to chose between the necessities to survive in prison or whether to call and check on my kids.

This not only affect prisoners but the families of inmates as well. The institutions aren't raising the pay to inmates, so I along with others are requesting lower phone rates. For 10.00\$ I can only call each household where my children are once a month, I don't get visits so my phone calls are the only contact I have with them. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully Jaianna Glen  
#807689

OCT 11 2012

FCC Mail Room

This is a public comment for the WRIGHT PETITION (CC Docket #96-128)

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comment  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I'm writing to ask that you act on the WRIGHT petition to cap inmate telephone rates and stop the exploitation of prisoners and their loved ones.

I am serving time in the Michigan Department of Correction. Since coming to prison, I have tried to remain in close contact with my family and friends, but with each passing year it becomes more difficult. Despite publicly trumpeting the benefits of prisoners remaining in close contact with their families, the self serving policies and actions by the MDOC are continuing to tear at the very fabric of these bonds.

The two most important and critical ways for a prisoner to keep in contact with his family comes through visits and telephone calls. For most families, including mine, making the trip to visit is a rare occurrence. When you consider the bad economic times, and that most of these visitors themselves are struggling near the margins, the cost of making the trip to visit is prohibitive. Add to this that the MDOC has reduced the amount of days a prisoner can get visits, and restricted the number of visitors an inmate is allowed to see, it's not surprising to see the number of visits being reduced by 70%.

This leaves the telephone as the main lifeline for a majority of prisoners. Rather than making this critical service more convenient, the MDOC has chosen instead to exploit this service for profit. They, along with predatory telephone providers, have colluded to extort and target those who can least afford it. Of the average \$3.25 charged for a 15 minute call, \$2.50 goes directly into the pockets of the MDOC and telephone provider.

The MDOC claims it needs its share to shore up its budget. Prisoners and their families should not be charged outrageous rates to support prison budgets, that burden should be borne by the entire tax base. As for the telephone provider, they get a 30 % cut of the overcharge. Remember, the telephone provider has already built in their cost and profit margins for providing the actual telephone service. Public Communication Services is Michigan's current provider and they are making more money from administering this slush fund than they are from providing the actual inmate telephone service.

It seems one of the functions of our Federal Communications Commission is to protect the consumer from predatory behavior, and if this doesn't qualify for that protection, then I don't know what would. Please put a stop to this. Cap the rates!

Sincerely,

*Michael Gray*

Received & Inspected

OCT 11 2012

FCC Mail Room

This is a public comment for the Wright petition  
(CC Docket # 96 - 128)

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

1 Oct. 2012

I'm writing to make you aware of the impact prison phone calls have had on my family and I.

In the State of Utah, all accounts must be established, pre-paid, through U-connect.

(NAC - Dept 2430)  
P.O. Box 122430  
Dallas, TX. 75312

800.786.8521 (push 6 to

or speak to a rep.)

[www.myconnect.com](http://www.myconnect.com)

There is a \$25.00 minimum and a \$100.00 to \$200.00 maximum whose rates are \$3.45 to Connect and .45¢ per minute and all calls are cut off at 30 minutes. It cost approx. \$16.95 to call home in Texas. which may not be entirely all that bad, however, payment is only accepted by creditcard and all interest rates and penalties apply.

Often times, in mid-sentence, calls are dropped 5 to 10 minutes into them and we have to re-connect.

Thank you and I hope this may in some way.

Respectfully,

Ricky Ciph #167857

Ricky Cunningham